

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, 1944.

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1944, which in accordance with Circular 10/44 is again an abridged one pending the end of the War.

Infectious Diseases - Scarlet Fever

Seven cases were notified as compared with eight last year. One was a return case.

Diphtheria

Four cases were notified, all young children, the same number as in 1943. Three cases proved not to be clinical Diphtheria after admission to Hospital, leaving one mild case who had previously been immunised.

The Immunisation Scheme has been successfully continued, nearly 90% of children from 1-15 years in the area having been protected.

No cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever were notified.

Tuberculosis

Four new cases were notified as compared with five last year. The death rate from all forms of the disease was 832 per million as compared with 269, 0, 243, 1,082, 298 in 1943, 1942, 1941, 1940 and 1939 respectively.

Statistics - Birth Rate

16.1 per 1,000 as compared with 15.3 per 1,000 in 1943.

Death Rate

13.3 per 1,000 as compared with 11.0 per 1,000 in 1943.

Infantile Mortality

34.6 per 1,000 as compared with 35 per 1,000 in 1943.

Estimated Population

(Mid 1944) - 3,604.

Water Supply

The major part of the District is supplied with main water from the Stroud District Water Board's undertaking, and one of the sources (Gigg Mill) is within the Urban District. Periodic samples show that it has a high degree of purity. Springs and wells supply outlying parts and those liable to pollution are dealt with by other means. *Suitable*

Sewerage

The Urban District is included in the Scheme prepared for the area of the Stroud Urban and Rural District Councils, and certain internal extensions are under consideration.

Housing

The Council have plans for the provision of houses for the working classes to provide for ordinary needs, overcrowding, and to replace unfit dwellings.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient Servant,

NICHOLAS D. DUNSCOMBE

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1945.

